Government House

Garden's Glory To Provide New Showcase

When Government House gardens are completed they will undoubtedly become one of the show places of Canada, and just as the Butchart Gardens is a must for tourists, so will be the Government House gardens.

Landscape architect Robert Savery said yesterday that it will be three years before the 900-rose rose gardens look their best, but gardens of annuals will be a mass of color within a few weeks.

Workmen yesterday were busy planting shrubs and sewing lawns. Some new lawns have already started to sprout and show a green sward.

The east garden court was one of those being seeded. In a corner of this court is a camellia garden which has been planted and the rest of that garden area will be dwarf rhododendrons, Japanese maples and junipers.

This court will connect with the tea garden terrace.

Showplace of Government House will be the grand terrace which is 107 feet long and 55 feet wide and the biggest garden terrace in all Canada.

Wonderful View

The redoubt of the grand terrace looks out over Juan de Fuca Strait, the Olympics and a great part of Victoria as well as the rose gardens which will be unique in Canada and will show color the year around.

And the royal suite looks over the grand terrace and all its glory.

The formal garden in the grand terrace will include a grass panel and large flower bed planted with annuals designed to be a mass of color—deep red, orange to yellow, from spring to autumn.

Foundation beds to the grand terrace will be broadleaf evergreens which will be faced up with plantings of annuals in a shell pink, through salmon to white and crimson color scheme. Border to the stone wall of the grand terrace will be portulaca in various colors.

The redoubt will include three parterre beds in gold, crimson and grey.

Rectangular paving on the terrace is concrete slabs in which is imbedded granite chips from the stones used in the building of Government House.

Two Main Walks

Below the grand terrace the west bank of rock work is being cleared to give two main walks from the west exit of the building, one diverging to the driveway and one passing to the lower formal rose gardens which will be planted with 300 rose plants.

On two sides the formal rose gardens will be bounded by a granite stone wall from four to three feet high. Two flights of steps are already in place on the north and two more will be arranged for in the east wall.

The existing pergola will be extended down the west side and planted with climbing roses of various varieties.

North of the pergola to the main gate is grass sward, bounded by rose beds which are already planted.

In these beds are contained a careful selection of species roses which will show the historical development from the very early history of the rose. This is a pet project of city parks superintendent Herbert Warren and Mr. Savery.

As many varieties as possible have been obtained locally, but rose plants have been imported from France, Denmark, United States and England.

Off the tea garden at the east end is a vista through Japanese cherries of 10 different varieties. These have already been planted and grass is beginning to show in the tea garden.

Japan Gets Ready for Fair

Trucks loaded with construction materials for that mammoth dome are rolling through building area in Tokyo, Japan. Three pavilions are being erected for the International Fair, slated to open May 5. Their cost is about $3,000,000.

Blows It Out During Day

New Furnace Stores Heat Through Night

SASKATOON (CP) — The Saskatchewan furnace of the future may be an electrical one—the kind that stores heat through the night when electricity is cheaper, and then blows the heat out for use through the day.

This was forecast last week by David Cass-Beggs, general manager of the Saskatchewan Power Corporation.

The corporation is examining carefully the possibilities of off-peak electrical heating of homes, he said. The special furnaces are established in Europe and there is at least one company distributing them in North America.

"We are studying this to see if homes can be heated at a price comparable to gas," Mr. Cass-Beggs said.

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KIRT OSTERTAG
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Creates 'Grain'

Paint, Beer Mixed

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — When Kirt Ostertag finishes the paint job he's on the problem will be: should he hang a sign reading, "wet paint," or one reading "prosit?"

Ostertag, a recent immigrant, employs a trick learned during his employment in a German furniture factory.

WALNUT EFFECT

He mixes beer with a coloring material to make a substance that produces a walnut "grain" on plasterboard.

Stale beer has been used in the past as a hair rinse. It has been used, too, as a decorative material for mirrors, on which it dries to a frosty effect.

KEEPS SECRETS

Ostertag didn't reveal whether he used fresh beer or stale beer, and the kind of colorant is a secret, too.

It might be fun to experiment with the process, but be sure to make your initial efforts on scrap plasterboard.

Community Meeting In Sooke Thursday

The Sooke Community Association annual meeting will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday in Sooke Hall. John Wilson is president and W. G. Pimlott is the secretary-treasurer.

Discussions will be held on All-Sooke Day July 18, and the Victoria-Sooke marathon foot race the evening before.

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Shelbourne Shopping Centre

Big Job Starts Soon

Construction of the new Shelbourne Plaza shopping centre at Cedar Hill Cross Road and Shelbourne will begin within two weeks.

At least 20 local men will be employed immediately on the $1,000,000 plaza and a minimum of 40 before the job is completed by August.

Alan Pearse, president of A & B Construction Co. of Nanaimo, said the project will begin by excavating the site and filling in a small creek which runs across the seven-acre property.

Nucleus of the centre will be a Shop Easy supermarket, he said.

There will also be accomodation for a bank, restaurant, drug store, medical and dental offices, gas station and nine other stores.

The project is being developed by Capital Holdings Ltd. of Vancouver.

A & B Construction is building three similar centres on Vancouver Island along with six in other sections of the province.

Heavy Paint With Texture Covers Scars

NEW YORK (UPI)—Heavy-textured paints cover up scarred and damaged walls. They produce a rough, plaster-like finish, come in a wide range of ready-mixed colors and are applied with a brush. While the surface is wet, make a pattern by going over the walls with a sponge, whisk broom, comb or crumpled paper.

NORTHERN CACTUS

Cactus plants grow wild in the Peace River area of northern Alberta.

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Beware Danger of Floods When Picking Home Site

COLUMBUS, Ohio (UPI)—Selecting a home site on a flood plain—level area bordering a stream—is courting disaster, says soil expert T. R. Smith. Presence of sediment indicates that stream will flood in future, he said.

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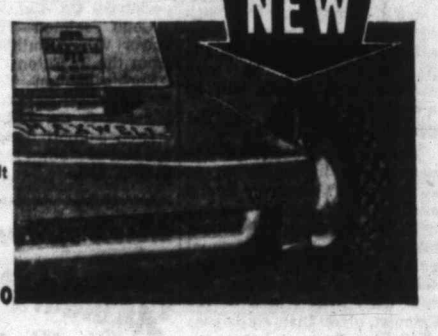

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